

**Campus Update**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**December 15, 2011**

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

***Public Policy Lecture***

Dr. Robert Gates presented the inaugural Michael S. and Kitty Dukakis Lecture on November 1<sup>st</sup>.

***Presentations and meetings***

Art professors Melanie Mowinski and Greg Sheckler have work featured in *The Birding Life*, a group exhibition at the Ferrin Gallery (Pittsfield) that runs through December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Professor Sheckler also published the article “The Darkness and Brightness of Teaching: Portraits of College Drop-Outs,” in the Fall 2011 edition of *Thought and Action*.

English/Communications professor Mike Birch’s book, *Mediating Mental Health: Contexts, Debates and Analysis* was published recently. The book “looks across fictional and factual genres in film, television, and radio examining media constructions of mental health identity.”

Psychology professor Thomas Byrne and student co-author Bryan Acton presented the poster “Contingency management improves attendance and performance for students enrolled in a GRE tutorial” at the Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy Conference at UMass Amherst October 13<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup>.

The Fine and Performing Arts department launched their ENCORES performance series October 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> with a concert performance of *Threepenny Opera* at Public Eat+Drink in downtown North Adams.

Fine and Performing Arts professors Michael Dilthey and Melanie Mowinski attended the American Association of Colleges & Universities (AAC&U) regional meeting in Providence, November 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>.

Education professor Ann Scott attended the New England American Studies Association Conference in Plymouth, Massachusetts, November 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>.

Psychology professor Tim Jay, who serves as MCLA’s Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR),

Vice President Cindy Brown, Dean Monica Joslin, Associate Dean Kris Bendikas, and Professor Paul Lesage, who becomes Associate Dean in January, attended the NEASC Annual Meeting in Boston December 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>.

An external review of Human Resources took place November 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>.

On December 5<sup>th</sup>, the state's new Open Checkbook program went live. Open Checkbook will provide online access to public employee earning and salary information. This is information that already is available on selected media Web sites. What's new is that additional government spending information, including vendor payments, will now be available to the public through Open Checkbook.

**ALUMNI/ADVANCEMENT/MCLA FOUNDATION, INC.**

*Updates*

A Campaign kick-off event is planned for April 17<sup>th</sup>